

I respectfully submit this comment in support of The Commission's proposed rule making permitting auxiliary operation in the 2 meter amateur band (Kenwood's "Sky Command").

Permitting a quick, easy to set up VHF/UHF to HF link, such as Kenwood's Sky Command, could be of great value in many ways. It would aid in the providing of emergency and other public service type communications by permitting direct communication with HF radio networks using commonly available 144/440 Mhz handheld radios. Current restrictions limiting auxiliary links to above 222 Mhz and above makes this type of auxiliary operation far more difficult due to the lack of commercially made equipment for those frequency bands. This proposal would also be of benefit to those who live in antenna restricted areas, by providing them with another means to remotely locate their stations. It would also provide greater flexibility in the setup of other types of remote links besides Kenwood's Sky Command, such as Internet based links (Echolink).

It is my belief that any interference risk that may be caused by this proposal would be minimal. Auxiliary operation using the 2 meter band would most likely be over very short distances.

In many areas, sufficient unused spectrum in the 2 meter band is available to permit this type of auxiliary operation without interference to other users of this band. In areas where the 2 meter band is heavily used, current regulations prohibiting interference, voluntary frequency coordination, and the use of the minimum power necessary for the auxiliary link, would protect users from interference.

I respectfully ask that the commission adopt this proposal.

Thank You,

John McCabe, KD8K